

Let no one feel incompetent to write about this matter. Our ideas will be crude at first, but we can only become wiser by exercise and a comparison of opinions.

Possibly if any thing of this character is attempted, there may be those who will offer objections; but they should frighten no one. There will be opposition within and without when we endeavor to do the Lord's work as we should. Even when the Lord talked about accomplishing the will of his Father, Peter said, Be it far from thee.

#### EDITORIAL ITEMS.

Bro. Bashor says if he was called upon to write a certificate of baptism for all whom he baptized during the eleven and a half years of his ministry, he would have a good, long, hard day's work. This is a very creditable truth.

Bro. Martin Shively returned from West Independence the first of last week in good spirit. He, however, failed to get there in time for the service on Saturday evening, and on Lord's day evening, the house was occupied by the other body of Christian who worship in it. He expects to go back again in a few weeks.

Bro. S. G. Smith has moved from Smicksburgh, Pa., to Vinco, Pa. Correspondents should hereafter address him at Vinco.

The creed says concerning the subject of a covering "If any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, [of covering or shaving the head and regarding one a shame and the other an honor,] neither the church of God." Still "if a woman have long hair it is a glory to her, for her hair is given her for a covering."

This whole matter is based upon custom. But if any sister has faith, let her have it between herself and God. The fashion of the Corinthians made it a disgrace for a woman to speak in public without a veil. In the prayer and social meetings distinction of office is not recognized, and public etiquette gives place to the feeling that all should be as the angels in heaven.

Bro. Edward Mason moved to Ashland last week, and his many correspondents will please remember this and address letters to him at Ashland, instead of to Farmersville, Ohio, as heretofore. He decided that it would be most convenient for him to locate in this place, to serve the churches he expects to labor for, and so his permanent address is Ashland, Ohio.

On Monday, April 11th, brother E. Mason baptized seven at the Lexington church in the Miami Valley.

The College Commencement and the Ohio S. S. Convention. The former is on the 2nd of June, and the latter on the 3rd. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ashland College is also on the 2nd. We mention this now so that those who expect to attend both will carefully arrange their plans so that they can.

Lately we have received a number of applications for Sabbath School supplies. We would say to such inquiries that we are not publishing such matter yet, but by next April we expect to be able to do so. At the present time, other publishing houses are producing such matter at prices so low that we could not meet the competition. The supplies published in Chicago are used by many of our schools. The address is David C. Cook, Publishing Co., 1315 Washington street, Chicago, Ill.

Last Monday was rather a remarkable day for April 18th. One of the big snows of the winter fell.

We have a number of copies of the Brethren Hymnody on hand which were sent to us by mistake. If any one should want one or a few copies, we can accommodate them.

We have received an interesting report, from Bro. Shaver of his work in Virginia, which came in too late for this week.

Bro. J. H. Worst reports at home again, after a visit of several months "in the States;" and now it will do the EVANGELIST readers good to hear from him occasionally. It would be gratifying also to hear that he has lifted the Brethren banner high, in Dakota, and organized the members there into a church.

#### South Bend and So Forth.

All goes pleasantly still. Expect to have baptism on the 24th. I go to Cassopolis, Mich., for brother Rittgers, and he preaches for me at South Bend on the 17th. I want to inaugurate a system of occasional exchange with our adjoining congregations. Think it will be good to do so.

Our city churches had a union meeting during the latter part of the winter. We took no general part, and so do not get a general share of the spoils; but we are gathering a few crumbs, thank God, and take courage. Said meetings brought about some remarkable results. One was, that the Methodist minister baptized two converts for the German Reformed church, in the Baptist pool. That was union throughout. And it is as it ought to be among them. If the method of conversion is the same, and anything will answer for baptism that the convert thinks is right, why, then, I think, it is all right. We have also had a number of articles on baptism in our daily paper. Perhaps our turn will come before long, unless it should be decided that we were in first, while Bro. Bashor was here, as he had an excellent article published on the subject.

I attended the funeral services of old sister Studebaker, mother of the Studebaker brothers, of this city. Elder R. H. Miller preached the sermon, and six clergymen, of the orthodox cloth, sat on either side of him, including the colored brother. Robert preached a pretty fair sermon. He had also preached her husband's funeral sermon. The old sister was very highly esteemed by all good people.

On Tuesday, 5th instant, I was invited to Tiosa, to solemnize the marriage of sister Etta Miller. See notice. And having some church business, a council meeting was appointed for Wednesday forenoon; but before the wedding had taken place, a messenger arrived requested me to preach the funeral sermon of brother Samuel Burger, at La Paz in the afternoon of the same day. See obituary notice. As it was the dying request of brother Burger, and the messenger being our mutual friend, Mr. Adam Longacher, of course I had to go. So the council meeting had to be deferred, and Bro. Massane filled our evening appointment. That was having a wedding and a funeral very close together, in point of time. And the minister is expected to rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Brother C. A. Price, of Nashville, Mich., was with us over Sunday 3rd instant, and preached for us in the forenoon, and gave us wholesome instruction. He is a veteran in the Christian service. Brother Ditch and family were also with us two nights. Perhaps I should be more definite: I mean he of Elkhart, and formerly of Ashland College. Then he was our college boy, now he is a married man, and minister of the gospel. His wife lately became a member of the Brethren church, and I believe they are a happy family. Brother Ditch preached for us on Monday evening, and gave us a good sermon on being born again, an important subject by the way, for the Savior says, "Ye must be born again."

We now have two good meet-

ing houses: one in town, which was dedicated last winter, which was described at the time, and the other three miles south of town, on the Michigan road, and built by brother D. C. Ullery several years ago. He has lately deeded it also to the South Bend City Brethren church. We expect to have services there regularly before long, and hope to accomplish at least a little good. Both our deeds wind up with the following precautionary clause: "And it is hereby expressly stipulated, that should any unfortunate schism or division occur in our beloved church or the brotherhood at large, this house shall be exclusively controlled and used by that party which shall continue to practice Trine Immersion, Feet-washing, the Lord's Supper, the Salutation of the Holy Kiss, and maintains and requires purity of life and character in its membership, and adheres to its present motto: 'The Gospel, the whole Gospel and nothing but the Gospel.'" Brother Ullery is liberal to the cause of Christ as the gospel teaches it, but he does not have much money to spend for the propagation of the doctrine of universalism, and thereupon we are united.

From brother Balsebaugh's letter in last EVANGELIST, one would infer that his wife had died, of which we had not been informed. If so, he has our sympathies.

I notice that sister Kline has called attention to the unscriptural answer to a question in No. 14, in regard to sisters praying or speaking with uncovered heads. The Brethren church does consider it wrong for sisters to pray or speak with their heads uncovered, for their creed requires them to cover their heads when they pray or prophecy. Such thoughtless answers, as the one referred to do much harm to the cause.

I am pleased to notice the awakening in Kansas and Nebraska. May the interest grow and abide.

H. R. HOLSINGER.

1563 Keasey st.

#### At Home.

After the long, tedious car-ride necessary to cross the space that intervenes between Ohio and Dakota, and a vexatious delay of three days in Bismarck on account of snow drifts that impeded travel by wagon road, I finally reached home on the night of April 4th, and found all well, much to my delight.

The winter of 1886 and 87 goes upon record as the most serious and severe in the history of the North west; yet with the return of spring the sufferings and privations of winter are forgotten and the hardy pioneer enters anew upon the race of life with hope undaunted and faith in the country still. Strange as it may appear, the settlers here are not only courageous but thoroughly contented.

At present writing the snow has disappeared and seeding is in progress. A large acreage will be sown this spring and with the advent of a couple of railroads during the summer, the future of the Missouri slope is assured.

I have lived in sunnier climes and endured milder seasons, but after all, this is home. There doubtless are wider spheres of usefulness, but in the develop-

ment of a great country like ours, the hardy pioneer has a mission of usefulness to perform both for himself and for those who shall follow him, that cannot be measured by any transient observation. The peopling of a new and untried land, the formation of society, the founding of institutions, and the moulding of influences that shall prove potent factors in the growth and prosperity of a great State, is no mean work, and is but a repetition of the common history of every portion of our country—the fairest among the nations of the earth.

The pioneer is the hero of our nation's expansion, just as the martyr was the hero of religious progress in the dark hours when ease and security pointed out a different path. A home—the one thing desirable above all others—is not made in a day; and though the settler here has to work harder and endure privations longer than he expected, to secure it, yet still it is the shorter road to it and none the less sacred when once obtained.

There is an air of independence about one's home that those who never wore the collar of servitude can fully comprehend or they would not ask "why do you forsake friends and comfort for the blizzard-swept prairies of the North-west?"

You may say to our many friends that all is well here, that we are happy, and that we hope to meet them all again in the "sweet bye and bye."

If all goes well, in about eighteen months we will be able to prove upon our homestead, and the time intervening will give us ample scope for observation and meditation.

J. H. WORST.

April 10th, 1887.

#### Communion Notice.

The brethren of the Bunker Hill congregation, the Lord willing, will hold our communion meeting at the Brethren church, 2 miles S. E. of Bunker Hill, on the Pan Handle R. R., on Monday evening following the 2nd Lord's day in May. Services will begin by the Pastor on Friday evening before the second Sabbath and continue until the close of the meeting. A hearty invitation is herein extended to all of our brethren and sisters, of sister churches to be with us. Those contemplating to attend the communion at Bunker Hill, will please notify any of the following brethren who will make arrangements to meet them at the depot. A. Cunningham, Sam'l Fishtorn, Joseph Cunningham, all of Bunker Hill, Miami county, Ind. By order of the church.

J. W. FITZGERALD.

Fennville, Mich.

Bro. Walter Clark, of Dowagiac, Mich., came to our aid Tuesday, March 29th. He preached for us in the evening, and on Wednesday, March 30th, we met at school house for council meeting. Opened in regular order and after the reading of the Scriptures upon the subject of ordination, the church called to the office of Elder, Bro. Henry Snyder. Bro. Clark preached again in the evening and had to leave us the next morning, on account of sickness in his family. He has made many warm friends in this community during his

short stay. On Sunday, April 3rd, we met at the lake shore where three precious souls were baptized, one being our companion, in the presence of about one hundred interested spectators. It was an impressive scene. Many were the tears that flowed, and one soul said, it was too much; she resolved in her mind to live a better life. Still the good work goes on. Brethren pray for us.

MRS. EMMA F. REAM.

#### Brighton, Ind.

In my last communication, I stated that I was on my way to Lima, Ind., to hold a few meetings. I was met at the station by Bro. Eli Horner and conveyed six miles east to his place of residence. I commenced meeting in the German Baptist church. This is something new under the sun, but it is only as it ought to be all over the land. How long it will last God only knows. When I am through with my meetings, I will give a final report. May God bless our labors.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

EDITOR OF BRETHREN EVANGELIST:—Somebody has the kindness to send to my address the EVANGELIST for which I desire to thank them through its columns. Certainly no one with the well wishes of humanity at heart, could fail to appreciate so valuable a paper, as it seems to be founded on true progressive principles, using the best methods for the building up of a better and happier state for mankind even in this life. Again we say thanks for the handsome sheet; it should be welcomed in every household in the land.

THOS. McDONALD.

Milford, Ind.

#### Died.

At Bremen, Indiana. April 4, 1887, Bro. SAMUEL BURGER, aged 67 years, 1 month and 28 days. He was born in Holmes County, Ohio, and was married there in Jan. 1841, to Elizabeth Seltens-wright, with whom he had thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters; three of the daughters preceded him to the spirit world. He moved to Marshall county, Indiana, in the year 1853. He was buried on the sixth, near the old homestead in the vicinity of La Paz. He was a faithful brother and highly esteemed citizen, as was indicated by the large attendance at his funeral. Services attended by H. R. Holsinger. Text: 2 Tim. 4: 7, 8.

#### Married.

At his home in Congress, April 10th 1887, by Elder P. J. Brown, Mr. Samuel Yost, of Burbank and Sister Christina Jacobs, of Congress, Ohio.

#### Married.

WILSON-MILLER.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Tiosa, Ind., April 5, 1887, Dr. W. Lester Wilson, of Montgomery county, and sister Sarah Louetta Miller, of Fulton county, and both of the state of Indiana. They have our prayers for prosperity and happiness in life.

H. R. HOLSINGER.

#### Certificates of Baptism.

When we have printed, on blue cards in two colors a form of a Certificate of Baptism. Every person who is baptized desires to preserve the date and the certificate of the administrator. They are printed so as to be useful to ministers of the Brethren Church only. Sent post paid to any address at 20 cents per dozen, or \$1.00 per hundred. BRETHREN PUB. HOUSE, Ashland, Ohio.

#### The Annual.

The Brethren Annual is distinctly a church document this year. It contains 40 pages, and will be mailed to any address at the following prices: Single Copy - 5c. Six Copies - 25c. Twelve Copies - 50c.

Report of the Dayton Convention sent to any address for ten cents.